

# The Bible, Jews and Conservatives

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**O**F ALL THE ISSUES that divide the conservative movement, keeping it from becoming the united force it should be, the issue of the Jewish people in general and political Zionism in particular presents the greatest intellectual and religious dilemma of them all. How can one expect to unite a movement when some of its proponents like William F. Buckley, Carl McIntire, and Billy James Hargis look on the State of Israel as a faithful ally and a bastion *against* communism while others like Willis Carto, Ned Touchstone and the late Gerald L. K. Smith look on the Zionist Movement with disfavor; implying that it's connected up *with* communism, international bankers, and other subversive influences. Even worse are the haunting religious overtones of the controversy stemming from the contradictory interpretations of the Bible given to support the various "Biblical" positions on the subject.

On one side we have the pro-Zionist crusaders who assure us that God is on the side of His "Chosen Jews" and will curse anyone or any nation that dares stand in their way. Then there are the so called "anti-Semites" that come to warn Christendom not to trust those Christ-rejecting "sons of the devil" lest we go to the same hell they are going to. Is there any wonder then why we can't get together? In this article I *do not* intend to say who is right but rather to present the various religious beliefs relating to the modern day Jews. If one does not take the Bible seriously this article may not seem to concern him for he is used to dealing with Zionism, like any other subject, in purely political terms. By now, however, he has probably found to his dismay that one can hardly discuss the

subject these days without religion entering into it. Therefore it behooves all who have opinions about the Mid-East crisis to at least know a little about the various religious ideas that relate to it.

In reviewing the different religious positions I find three major lines of thinking, plus numerous variations of each position. The question is hereby posed. Who are God's Chosen People in this present day and age? The three main answers are: 1) The modern Jews physically and the Church spiritually. 2) The Jews plus the Anglo-Saxons or British Israel. The White Christian nations or The Identity Movement. Here I might add we have the Mormon idea that the American Indians are "Lost Israel" and a Black Cult that teaches that the Ethiopians are the "*Great Lion of Judah*." The young Black man that gunned down Martin Luther King's mother is reported to have been a member of the later sect. But because neither the Mormons nor the "Black Israelites" concern themselves much with the Mid-East question they will not be dealt with here. 3) The Church and only the Church. That Invisible Body of Christ that is found in every born-again believer of every race. God's Kingdom is in Heaven and has nothing to do with this world.

## 1. JEWS ARE GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE

Now let's analyze the first argument, namely that the Jews *of today* are still God's Chosen People. The idea presupposes that Abraham was the first Jew and the Jews of today *are his direct descendants*. If a Jew by religion only is "chosen" then we could ALL become chosen by simply renouncing Christ and

joining the local synagogue. Not even the wildest pro-Israel preacher has suggested that.

You will recall that God promised Abraham that He would bless his seed above all other people and in turn they would be a blessing to the world. The bulk of the Old Testament, then, is a history of God's dealing with this one people. When Christ came most of the Jews rejected him so it was left up to the "converted Jew," Paul, to go out and preach the gospel to the non-Jews or "gentiles" and bring them into this new Jewish Sect we now call Christianity. This is the basis for that term "Judeo-Christianity" we hear so much about from BOTH liberal and conservative spokesmen. According to this reasoning "gentile" Christians now living in the "Church Age" have become God's "spiritual children" while the disobedient Jews remain, though unconverted, his chosen race with whom he has "future plans."

In 1948 those plans began to unfold. As prophesied, Israel was, indeed, regathered and led back to Palestine. As ordained by God they drove out most of the Arab inhabitants and now they are rebuilding their "holy nation." Woe be unto those that oppose them. God will not let Israel lose a war and in the end every nation will be judged on how well it treated His people. In the end Christ will return to the old city of Jerusalem. The Jews will be reconciled with Him and He will then lead them to victory in the great Battle of Armageddon.

He will then set up His world government over there and send out 144,000 Jews to run the governments of all nations. Just think of it—144,000 Henry Kissingers. Christians should look forward to all this for their Lord is none other than that long awaited Messiah of the Jews. As for trying to convert the Jews—forget it. They have even a closer place in the heart of the Almighty than gentile believers.

It must be pointed out that the above is the *extreme pro-Jewish view*. It is not shared by most conservative supporters of Zionism. Though they agree that God

ordained that the Jews should go back to Palestine they insist that as long as they reject Christ they are "lost." God will rescue Israel but not before two thirds of her population has bowed before the Anti-Christ and in turn perished by the sword.

The 144,000 sons of Israel referred to in the *Book of Revelation* will then serve as missionaries, not rulers to those heathens who have never heard the gospel. The Christians by this time will have already been "raptured" away to Heaven.

Because both the extreme view and the more moderate one agree that Zionism is a part of God's plan they are usually critical of those opposed to it. Yet many of them are not overly fond of Israel. Some can be heard to remark . . . "that anti-Christ the Jews are going to make a covenant with could be Kissinger. . . . If God's on Israel's side why do they need more U.S. war-planes. . . . Anyway, why can't we wait for those Zionists to *repent* and *then* send them foreign aid."

Needless to say the highly touted TV evangelists like Billy Graham and Oral Roberts can be found backing the Jewish State. So can such rightwingers as McIntire, Hargis and Bob Jones though the latter three have all caught hell from the Anti-Defamation League.

## 2. THE LOST TRIBES OF ISRAEL THEORY

The second idea is that of the "Anglo Israel Theory," personified in America by popular evangelist Garner Ted Armstrong. This faith teaches that the British and kindred people, except for the *mean old Assyrian Germans*, represent the ten-tribed House of Israel while the modern Jews represent the two-tribed House of Judah.

Thus the Anglo-Saxons and Jews together constitute God's Chosen Race. Queen Victoria and her Jewish Prime Minister, Benjamin Disraeli, are said to have belonged to this cult. Needless to say, it too, is pro-Zionist.

Then we have the teachings of the Israel Identity Church; the most White Racist, Anti-Jewish, religious movement the world

has ever known. According to its teaching the *entire White race*, collectively, is the "Holy Seed" and the Jews are not considered White.

Like Anglo-Israel they teach that Britain and her White Commonwealth Nations are descended from the Tribe of Ephraim, while other White Christian nations can trace their ancestors back to other tribes, Denmark from Dan and so forth. The United States represents Manasseh. We are the New Jerusalem where the regathering of all the tribes of Israel, under the banner of the Cross, has taken place over the years through European colonization. Though, as prophesied, most of us are still blind to our "identity." America is the Promised Land while the Throne of David rests in the British Isles. The Identity Movement differs from Anglo-Israel on the Biblical status of modern Germany. Instead of this nation representing the Assyrian villains it is in fact descended from the extremely important Tribe of Judah from "whose loins have sprang kings."

Now where does that leave the Jews? It leaves them as the satanic Canaanite Baal worshippers, who are occupying Palestine when the "true" Israelites invaded the country and disobeyed God's command to wipe them out. Since then they have gathered together other mix-blooded "sons of the devil" whose names were left "to be a curse unto My Chosen." They believe not because they "are not of God."

If anyone wonders why the Jews work toward the destruction of our Christian civilization and the non-White nations are mostly still heathen, then he need not wonder any longer. Christ said that He "came but to the lost sheep of the House of Israel" and that his sheep would know him and follow him. That's why the White nations are the Christian nations. They are his "lost sheep."

The teachings of the Identity Movement do not sit very well with the vast majority of conservative organizations; even those critical of the Jews. On the other hand the Ku Klux Klan and the National States Rights Party have been more than willing to give the movement a helping hand.

Among the more notable believers are Rev. Bob Miles, former Michigan Klan leader now behind bars, Byron De La Beckwith, now awaiting a five year prison sentence, Sam Bowers, imprisoned leader of the militant White Knights and the late Rev. Connie Lynch, leader of the violent White resistance against "Martin Lucifer Coons" mobs in St. Augustine, Florida, a few years back.

The FBI and the ADL are understandably upset by this new religion which seeks in these "later days" to wake up "blinded Israel" to her true identity. Right now all they can do is watch its leaders and dare them to get out of line. Should the U.S. ever go to war on the side of the Jews perhaps those who believe the "Identity Message" can be exempt from military duty on religious grounds.

### 3. CHRISTIANS ARE GOD'S ONLY CHOSEN?

Thirdly there is the belief that the Christian Church now contains all of God's Chosen People. Of course, the problem is to define Christian. Bigots within Christendom often declare their own particular denomination to be the "only true Church." The Papacy for example asserts that Catholics are the Chosen People of today. In general, however, most people who accept the idea that "born-again" believers are the only real people of God are referring to believers in general.

The reasoning goes something like this. The Jews were once God's special nation, but they were chosen for only one purpose. That was to keep the knowledge of the True God until Jesus should come among them and redeem *all mankind* in that "*spiritual kingdom not of this world.*" With the coming of Christ the criteria for becoming one of God's Chosen ceased to



be a matter of birth but rather one of belief. In short, God's Chosen People were to be those who *chose Him* through the redemptive blood of His son Jesus Christ. No longer was there "any difference between Jew and Greek" for all stood equal before God.

Most of the Jewish nation rejected Christ and in return was rejected by Him. A Jew can, as an individual, be saved on the same basis as anyone else but God no longer deals with them as a nation. In their modern political affairs *God is neither for them or against them* for now he deals only with individuals, not nations. It follows then that the present State of Israel is of no more Biblical significance than is Japan, and the idea that God loves Israelites more than he does Arabs, is nothing short of blasphemy.

Some "premillennium" believers say that Christians of ALL nations will rule with Christ here on earth during His "thousand year reign." Others teach, like the Church of Christ denomination, that the doctrine of the millennium is, in itself, false. The Kingdom of God is to be found in the hearts of all saved persons and Our Lord will never reign on this earth either from the British Throne or from Zionist occupied Jerusalem. When He returns, they insist, all the Christians will be carried away to Heaven and this old world immediately set ablaze.

What then of all those prophecies cited by the scores of pro-Zionist books making the rounds today of which Hal Lindsay's best selling *The Late Great Planet Earth* is typical? Lindsay predicts that the end will come with the generation that was alive for the 1948 founding of the modern nation of Israel. The answer is simple. His theory is wrong because the return of the Jews referred to in the quoted prophecies refers *not to this time*, but to the return of the Jews following the Babylonian captivity, *about 500 years before Christ*. You will recall that God promised His people that He would deliver them from Babylon and that they would return under the Prophet Nehemiah and rebuild their temple. He never promised any return after the second

destruction of the temple by the Romans in 70 A.D.

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Before we close there is another doctrine closely likened to the one above which plays a major role in the thinking of many anti-Zionist fundamentalists. This ideology holds that, though Jews can accept Christ and be saved, their nation today not only is no longer chosen but *cursed*. In fact its leaders are no less than the organized forces of the anti-Christ and have been conspiring against Christ's Church since the crucifixion. The Messiah the Jews and the pro-Zionist preachers are looking for is, in reality, Satan. That world government in Jerusalem they keep praying for is none other than the "government under the beast."

The Talmud the Jews brought back from Babylon was known in Christ's day as the "Traditions of the Elders" and as such was denounced by the Master. We Christians in no way get our religion from that wicked source.

Perhaps the most important point made by any side in the controversy is the allegation, backed up by secular history, that most modern Jews *are not blood-line descendants* from the people of the Old Testament. Many people over the centuries have been converted to Judaism, though enough inbreeding has occurred to give them the outward appearance of being a race. The greatest mass conversion of a foreign people to Judaism came about 740 A.D. when the Khazars of Russia made it their state religion. If all this is true there is no way for this "mixed multitude" to "go back" to a land most of them never left.

After reading all these charges and counter charges I'm sure, dear Christian, you are thoroughly confused. So are most of us who don't consider ourselves "know-it-alls" when it comes to the Bible. Therefore be on your guard the next time someone shows up at a conservative meeting to present the "Christian view" concerning political Zionism and the State of Israel. Ask him which Christian view.